

For Immediate Release

Contact: Erica Daughtrey

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*Washington, D.C.*-Today, Congressman Albio Sires joined his colleagues in the House of Representatives in passing H.R. 2200, the Transportation Security Administration Authorization Act by a vote of 397 to 25. This bill would help to keep our nation safe by reauthorizing the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) in order to bolster and expand its resources.

"This bill is especially important for the 13th District, given that it has the most dangerous two mile stretch in the country with the number of at-risk sites between Newark Liberty International Airport and Port Elizabeth," said Congressman Sires. "It will provide the TSA with the tools necessary to keep all our modes of transportation secure."

H.R. 2200 would increase our nation's homeland security measures by authorizing \$7.6 billion in FY 2010 and \$8.1 billion in FY 2011 for the TSA. It also includes important enhancements for rail and transit security, aviation security, and security training and performance, as well as additional resources for explosive detection canine teams, and programs for the development of new security technologies.

"I am particularly pleased that this legislation would triple funding for surface transportation security. Since the attacks of 9/11, events around the globe have shown that surface transportation systems are highly vulnerable targets for terrorist attacks. With this bill, we will be able to make our transportation systems safer and more secure for passengers," stated Congressman Sires.

H.R. 2200 now awaits action in the Senate.

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